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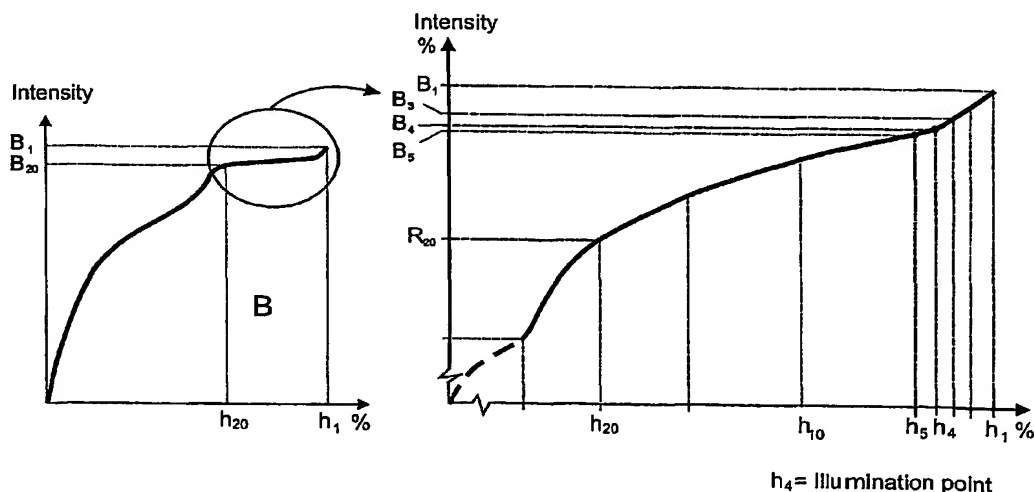
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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM IN A DIGITAL IMAGE PROCESSING CHAIN FOR ADJUSTING A COLOUR BALANCE, CORRESPONDING EQUIPMENT, AND SOFTWARE MEANS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE METHOD



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a method in a digital image processing chain (10) for adjusting a colour balance. In the method, the subject is imaged as colour components (R, G, B), from which cumulative histograms are formed. From these colour curves, the illumination colour ( $R_{ill}$ ,  $G_{ill}$ ,  $B_{ill}$ ) is defined in a selected manner, which is taken into account when defining the gain factor ( $G_R$ ,  $G_G$ ,  $G_B$ ) adjusting the colour balance. In the method, before the illumination colour is defined, at least such pixel values ( $G_{(s)}$ ) as meet a selected criterion are filtered out. After this, cumulative histograms are formed, and, using a selected criterion, a point  $h_i$  is defined from the flat area of the colour curve at the end of them and is set for the colour components (R, G, B) as a common defined point  $h_i$  corresponding to the colour-componentwise intensity value  $C_i$ , to correspond to the illumination colour ( $R_{ill}$ ,  $G_{ill}$ ,  $B_{ill}$ ).



— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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